

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION CALIFORNIA DIVISION 980 Ninth Street, Suite 400 Sacramento, CA. 95814-2724 February 7, 2002

> IN REPLY REFER TO HDA-CA File #: 1040.2 Document #: \$37651

Mr. Jeff Morales, Director California Department of Transportation 1120 N Street Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Branch, Room 3500

For Greg Wong

Dear Mr. Morales:

SUBJECT: TCAG 2000/01 FTIP AMENDMENT No. 8

We have completed our review of the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) Amendment No. 8 to its 2000/01 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) submitted by your letter dated December 10, 2001. This amendment was adopted by TCAG on November 19, 2001.

We accept this TCAG amendment in accordance with 23 CFR 450 and find that the amendment was developed based on a continuing, cooperative, comprehensive transportation planning process in accordance with 23 USC 134 and Section 5303 of the Federal Transit Act (49 USC 53). The changes made to the program by this amendment are exempt from the requirement that a conformity determination be performed. Therefore, we find this FTIP to conform with the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP).

This finding has been coordinated with the regional office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Region Nine office of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in accordance with the procedures outlined on the Memorandum of Understanding, dated March 8, 1996, on single mode FTIP amendments.

This letter also constitutes approval and inclusion of TCAG's FTIP Amendment No. 8 into California's 2000/01 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP).

Sincerely.

/s/ Dennis A. Scovill
For
Michael G. Ritchie
Division Administrator